

The Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry, Kenya



Genebanks at a Glance

Acronym	CIFOR-ICRAF
Country	Kenya and various other countries
Year established	1997
Conservation methods and facilities	Seed, field
Number of staff	14
Total number of accessions	15,008
Number of accessions distributed annually	177

Recent Highlights

- Since its inception, the genebank has been distributing agroforestry tree germplasm for research, breeding and education purposes. Samples are distributed every year to direct users such as farmers, NGOs, schools and colleges. In addition, regional field genebanks have distributed thousands of seedlings to various tree planting projects, mainly to CIFOR-ICRAF projects, farmer groups and NGOs.
- The material distributed has been used in livelihood and restoration initiatives in the Sahel, Central and Eastern Africa. This has contributed to building resilience in the restored landscapes and ecosystems while enhancing food and nutritional security. In addition, the planting of trees has contributed to an increase in tree cover, which plays an important role in mitigating climate change.
- The genebank is involved in improving tree seed and seedling systems through preliminary selections of fruit trees and low input breeding by establishing breeding seed orchards (BSOs) of multipurpose tree species and mother blocks of fruit trees for production of quality germplasm. Currently, the focus of these activities is in Ethiopia and Rwanda, but it will be expanded to other African countries. These activities aim to support national and international landscape and ecosystems restoration initiatives with quality, adapted, climate-resilient tree planting material in adequate quantities, led by national authorities.
- Through the germplasm health unit, the genebank is currently carrying out research on seed-borne mycoflora associated with *Calotropis procera*, *Faidherbia albida*, and *Moringa oleifera*.

www.apps.worldagroforestry.org/products/grunew/

